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20 February 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: AD/OCR

SUBJECT: Committees of the United States Intelligence Board

1. I have examined the draft Memorandum for the Chairman, United States Intelligence Board prepared by the Assistant for Coordination (AC/DCI). The main purpose of the draft is apparently to re-orient the USIB committee structure. In particular the draft recommends (paragraph 8. e, page 10) the elimination of the Committee on Procurement of Foreign Publications (PROCIB) as a USIB committee and assigns the functions of PROCIB to CIA for implementation through specified points of contact designated by interested agencies. The question whether formal committees should be established to replace PROCIB or other committees that are being eliminated is purposely left open so that the implementing agency in each instance may reach its own conclusions as to the nature of future coordinating mechanisms.

2. DCID 2/5 created PROCIB to advise and assist CIA in implementing its responsibilities in coordinating the government's programs for the procurement of foreign publications. It does not appear that anything has occurred since the original promulgation of DCID 2/5 to lessen the need for this mechanism. In the past year PROCIB has concerned itself with such major publications procurement problems as the export ban on Chinese Communist publications, means for the procurement of Cuban publications, and now the present procurement difficulties arising out of the situation in Berlin. I am advised that shortly PROCIB will have to come to grips with difficulties in the CERP program. In addition, if CIA takes over complete control and responsibility for all foreign publications procurement, a PROCIB type mechanism would be desirable.

3. The main reasons for eliminating PROCIB seem to be that this committee has no problems for USIB consideration, is not the subject of any USIB attention, and therefore, in the opinion of the AC/DCI and his staff, it should cease to be a USIB committee. This argument may have validity in the cases of some of the other committees whose abolition is recommended in the AC/DCI draft, because in such cases the committees have been inactive, or their work has been completed, or can be effected in another manner.

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However, as pointed out in paragraph 2. above, there is basically no change in the continued need for coordination in the foreign publications procurement field since DCID 2/5 was originally promulgated, and the problems of procurement are, if anything, increasing. Not only is PROCIB faced with coordinating overt procurement problems but, because of some of the situations which are outlined in paragraph 2., PROCIB must also concern itself with certain covert procurement problems. It should be noted further that many of the publications which are obtained by the foreign publications procurement program are primary sources of intelligence. Some of the present intelligence gaps caused by lack of this type of publication are of direct concern to the USIB agencies, even though they are not tabled for USIB discussion but instead are worked out through the PROCIB mechanism.

4. For the above reasons, it is my feeling that PROCIB should be retained as a USIB committee for at least another 12 to 18 months when this subject can again be reviewed in the light of the situation at that time. I believe that the PROCIB situation is directly analogous to that of the Economic Intelligence Committee (EIC) which the draft paper of AC/DCI recommends retaining (page 14) "...because its work involves the coordination of important functional programs necessarily conducted by most USIB agencies as well as by some 9 non-USIB agencies." Attention is called to the fact that, in addition to the USIB membership on PROCIB, there are 6 non-USIB members plus the Army Map Service presently sitting with PROCIB, and we have just received a letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary (International Affairs) of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare requesting representation for HEW on PROCIB.

5. If PROCIB does not continue as a USIB committee, it would seem essential that it continue as a formal committee under the leadership of CIA. It is my understanding that DIA is meeting to formulate its opinion on the draft this week. The NSA member on PROCIB feels strongly that it should remain a USIB committee, in order to emphasize intelligence concern with overt procurement and to strengthen relationships with the evolving DIA procurement set up. However, her views may be diluted by NSA policy officials. The AEC representative, after talking with Dr. Reichardt, reflects the official view that it may not be necessary to continue as a USIB committee, although she feels that as a USIB committee, PROCIB might have more weight, effect, and support. I have not yet been able to contact the State Department member, who is on active military duty.

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6. I have discussed the AC/DCI proposal with the PROCIB members from the Library of Congress, the National Science Foundation, the National Library of Medicine, the Department of Agriculture, and the Army Map Service; they are unanimous in desiring that a formal committee on foreign publications procurement be continued. None of them take a position regarding the status of PROCIB as a USIB or non-USIB committee, as USIB as such has no impact upon them. They feel that this is a matter to be resolved within the Intelligence Community. They are all perfectly agreeable to continuing as a CIA chaired committee. A digest of their comments is attached hereto. It might be of interest to note that the National Science Foundation member stated that, if PROCIB had not been in existence, it would have been necessary for NSF to establish some alternative mechanism.

7. However, to me the major factor is the necessity to continue a committee, either USIB or CIA, to protect the interests of the non-USIB members. Their utilization of PROCIB as a place to bring their problems and to exchange information in the publications procurement field is very important to them, as is noted in their attached comments. This is one place where intelligence can maintain valid intra-governmental relationships outside the Intelligence Community, and thus contribute to scientific, scholarly, and cultural development in the United States. Equally important to the intelligence process is our continued ability to draw upon their strengthened resources.

8. In the light of the above, it is recommended that (a) PROCIB be continued as a USIB committee for at least 12 to 18 months when the situation can again be reviewed; and, (b) if PROCIB is eliminated as a USIB committee, it be immediately reconstituted as a formal committee under CIA leadership.

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Walter Pforzheimer
Acting Chairman,
PROCIB

Attachment:

As indicated above

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